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display unit for display thereon, said picture being formed by pixel data of a frame having two fields, said picture decoding and display unit comprising:

decoding means coupled to receive said bit stream, for extracting said pixel data included in said bit stream and carrying out said decoding processing on the extracted pixel data to restore said original pixel data, said decoding means including means for extracting information indicating whether a type of said frame of the supplied pixel data included in said bit stream is an I/P picture employed as a reference picture in the decoding processing or a B picture not employed as the reference picture but subjected to only display, for identifying the type of said frame;

memory means coupled to said decoding means for storing the pixel data of said B picture restored by said decoding means in accordance with a B picture identification indication signal from said decoding means;

read means coupled to said memory means for reading the pixel data stored in said memory means and outputting the read out pixel data to said display unit for display; and

control means coupled to said decoding means and said read means for controlling operation timings of said decoding means and said read means such that time difference between a timing for starting said decoding processing of a B picture and that for outputting the restored pixel data of said B picture from said

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30 H1 Con Cl memory means to said display unit through said read means is substantially one field time required for outputting one field pixel data of said B picture to said display unit, said control means including means for starting a decoding operation of a first field of a subsequent frame in response to starting of reading of pixel data of the last field of the decoded and stored frame to the display unit.

Claim 2, line 6, delete "further".

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8. (Amended) A picture decoding and display unit for decoding predictively encoded pixel data of a picture included in an incoming bit stream, restoring original pixel data and outputting the restored original pixel data for display on a display unit, said picture formed by a frame of a plurality of fields, said picture decoding and display unit comprising:

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decoding means coupled to receive said bit stream, for carrying out said decoding processing on said predictively encoded pixel data to restore said original pixel data;

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storage means coupled to said decoding means, for storing said restored pixel data received from said decoding means;

read means coupled to said storage means, for reading pixel data from said storage means for outputting to said display unit for display thereon; and

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control means coupled to said read means and said decoding means for making said decoding means start decoding processing of pixel data of a <u>subsequent</u> frame supplied subsequently to a certain frame including a last field to be finally displayed in the certain frame in response to reading of said last field from said read means[.], said subsequent frame supplied immediately following a picture having the decoding processing thereon completed upon the reading of said last field.

21. (Amended) A picture decoding and display unit for decoding predictively encoded pixel data of a picture included in a supplied bit stream, restoring original pixel data for outputting to a display unit for display thereon, said picture formed by a frame of two fields, said picture decoding and display unit comprising:

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decoding means coupled to receive the bit stream, for carrying out said decoding processing on said predictively encoded pixel data in the received bit stream to restore said original pixel data;

storage means coupled to said decoding means, for storing the restored pixel data received from said decoding means;

read means coupled to said storage means, for reading said pixel data from said storage means for outputting to said display unit for display thereon; and